



Austro-Hungarian
Orders, Medals and Decorations
Volume II: Pre-1848 Awards
Part VI, 1790-1792



by
Richard R. Lussier, Dr. P.H.





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Introduction



This section will cover the awards issued from 1790 to 1792. During this time Austria was ruled by Leopold II who was the Holy Roman Emperor, Archduke of Austria and King of Hungary. This document will only concern itself with awards that were granted to reward military accomplishments or services rendered in support of the empire that were of a military nature.





Commemoration Medal for Volunteers of the Province of Limburg
(Erinnerungs-Medaille für Freiwillige aus der Provinz Limburg)



Date Issued: 1790, 1792 and 1793

Reason Issued: As a reward for bravery or especially meritorious service to the empire by those volunteers from the Austrian Netherlands/Belgium province of Limburg who responded to the call to arms in 1790 to resist rebellion and in 1792 and 1793 to defend the empire from the army of the French Republic

Classes or Types: Three

- Large Gold Medal
- Small Gold Medal
- Silver Medal

Interesting Facts:

- Large gold medals were issued to high ranking officers
- Small gold medals were issued to lower ranking officers
- Silver medals were issued to Non-Commissioned Officers and enlisted men

Hallmarks: None Known

Design: A round medal with an attached stylized suspension eye at the top.

Obverse: The bust of Leopold II, facing to the right. He is portrayed with long wavy hair in which is a laurel wreath near the temples. Paralleling the rim around the upper two-thirds of the medal is the inscription: **LEOPOLDVS II. AVG. DVX LIMBURGI** (Emperor Leopold II Duke of Limburg)

Reverse: Inside a wreath composed of two boughs one of oak on the right and the other of laurel on the left is an inscription in six lines **FIDIS. / FORTIBVSQVE. / VOLVNTARIIS. / LIMBURGENSIBVS. / PALMA. / MDCCXC.** (The faithful and brave Limburger volunteers a palm 1790)

Weight:

- Large Gold Medal = Unknown
- Small Gold Medal = Unknown
- Silver Medal = 13 grams

Size:

- Large Gold Medal = 34 mm (According to Mericka), (According to Hessenthal and Schreiber = 32 mm)
- Small Gold Medal = 32 mm (According to Mericka), (According to Hessenthal and Schreiber = 28 mm)
- Silver Medal = 28 mm (According to Hessenthal and Schreiber = 32 mm)





Commemoration Medal for Volunteers of the Province of Limburg
(Erinnerungs-Medaille für Freiwillige aus der Provinz Limburg)



Gold Medal



Type of Material: Gold and silver

Image from Pinterest

Variations: None known

Designer: Unknown

Manufacturer: Vienna Hauptmunzamt (Vienna Mint)

Number Issued: In 1790 the number issued were as described below, the number issued in 1792 and 1793 are unknown:

- Large Gold Medal= 34 to high ranking officers and officials
- Small Gold Medal = 108 were issued to subaltern officers
- Silver Medal = 1084 were given to NCOs and enlisted men

Case: Unknown

Ribbon: A 35 mm wide dark Ponceau-red (Poppy-red) ribbon with 5 mm wide Corn-flower blue edge strips, 1 mm from the edge of the ribbon

Attachments: None

Miniature: None known





Emperor Leopold II Silver Military Merit Medal for the Netherlands
(Silberne Militärverdienstmedaille Kaiser Leopolds II für die Niederlande)



Date Issued: 1790-1793

Image courtesy of Dorotheum

Reason Issued: As a reward for acts of outstanding bravery during the uprisings in the Netherlands in 1790 and the war with the French Republic in 1792-93

Classes or Types: One

Interesting Facts: None Known

Hallmarks: None Known

Design: A round medal pierced at the top with a small hole through which passes a suspension ring.

Obverse: A plain background on which is an inscription in five lines: **FIDES/ ET/ CONSTANTIA/ PATRII.MILITIS** (faithful and persevering the soldiers of the fatherland).

On the upper edge of the medal and above the inscription are clasped hands emerging from clouds. On the lower edge of the medal are crossed branches, oak on the viewers left and a laurel on the right, tied with a ribbon. The medal is edged with fine rope design.

Reverse: A plain background on which is an inscription in four lines: **PAX. / ET. / SECVRITIS. / PVBLICA.** (Peace and public security). Above the inscription near the top edge of the medal are two inverted cornucopias fastened together at the base by a ribbon. Below the inscription and near the bottom edge of the medal are four crossed flags with their poles passing through an oak wreath. The reverse of the medal has a rope design on the edge similar to the obverse

Weight: 10 grams by itself and 11 grams if the ring for attaching it to its ribbon is included in the weight

Size: 30 mm

Type of Material: Silver

Variations:

- As described above
- As described above but lacking the suspension eye
- As described above except with an attached suspension eye

Designer: Unknown

Manufacturer: Unknown

Number Issued: Unknown

Case: Unknown

Ribbon: A 35 mm wide half dark-rose and white ribbon



half

Attachments: None

Miniature: None known





Leopold II Imperial Honor Medal (Kaiser Leopolds II Kaiserliche Gnadenmedaille)



Image attributed to Reference Catalogue Orders, medals and decorations of the World, A-D, Borna Barac

Date Issued: 1790-1792

Reason Issued: To reward those who had loyally served Emperor Leopold II as the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire.

Classes or Types: Six

- Larger Gold Medal
- Gold Medal
- Small Gold Medal
- Large Silver Medal
- Silver Medal
- Small Silver Medal

Interesting Facts: None known

Hallmarks: None Known

Design: A round medal with slightly raised rim and a round flat attached eye at the top.

Obverse: A youthful bust of Leopold II, facing to the right. He is portrayed with long flowing wavy hair. He wears a laurel wreath as a crown. He has bare shoulders. Paralleling the rim around the upper half of the medal is the inscription: **LEOPOLDVS II. P.F. AVGVSTVS** (Leopold II Emperor). Below the bust and near the lower edge of the medal is the signature of the medalist: J. N. Wirt F. (The F stands for fabrikat , (fabricated))

Reverse: On the upper edge of the medal is the inscription: **PIETATE ET CONCORDIA** (With piety and unity). Below this inscription is the crown of the Roman Empire (Imperial crown). Below the crown and in the center of the medal is a stole with its three fringed ends reaching to the lower edge of the medal. Crossing over the stole so as to form an X is the imperial sword and scepter. The sword tip is to the viewers left and the top of the scepter to the right. Placed at the intersection of the sword and scepter is the imperial orb.

Weight:

- Larger Gold Medal = 74 grams or 20 Ducats
- Large Silver Medal = 43. 8 grams
- Gold Medal = 54 grams or 15 Ducats
- Silver Medal = 35 grams
- Small Gold Medal = 43.2 grams or 12 Ducats
- Small Silver Medal = 17.5 grams





Leopold II Imperial Honor Medal
(Kaiser Leopolds II Kaiserliche Gnadenmedaille)



Size:

- Larger Gold Medal = 49-50 mm
- Large Silver Medal = 49 mm
- Gold Medal = 43 mm
- Silver Medal = 43 mm
- Small Gold Medal = 36 mm
- Small Silver Medal = 36 mm

Type of Material: Gold and silver

Variations:

- **Type I:** As described above
- **Type II:** As described above but with the obverse inscription **IMP. CAES. LEOPLDVS II. P.F. AVG.**
This type medal was issued in 1792 and has been seen in a large silver version of the medal.
- **Type III:** There is an alternative version of this medal as issued to Hungarians and Bohemians. The obverse is the same as this medal but the reverse features the Bohemian lion. (See above)

Designer: Johann Nepomuk Wirt

Manufacturer: Vienna Hauptmunzamt (Vienna Imperial Mint)

Number Issued: Unknown

Case: A simulated leather case with a decorative gilt border.
The case has a black felt liner.

Ribbon: A 39-40 mm Crimson Ribbon

Attachments: None

Miniature: None known





Emperor Leopold II Austrian Honor Medal (Kaiser Leopold II österreichisch Gnadenmedaille)



Date Issued: 1790-1792

Reason Issued: To reward those who had loyally served Emperor Leopold II as the Emperor of Austria.

Classes or Types: Four

- Larger Gold Medal
- Large Silver Medal
- Small Gold Medal
- Small Silver Medal

Interesting Facts: None known

Hallmarks: None Known

Design: A round medal with slightly raised rim and a round flat attached eye at the top.

Obverse: A youthful bust of Leopold II, facing to the right. He is portrayed with long flowing wavy hair. He wears a laurel wreath as a crown. He has bare shoulders. Paralleling the rim around the upper half of the medal is the inscription: **LEOPOLDVS II. P.F. AVGVSTVS** (Leopold II Emperor). Below the bust and near the lower edge of the medal is the signature of the medalist: J. N. Wirt F. (The F stands for fabrikat, (fabricated))

Reverse: Around the upper edge of the medal is inscribed: **PIETATE ET CONCORDIA** (With piety and unity). On a plain background is a walking double tailed lion facing to the left which is crowned with the bohemian crown (the Bohemian lion). The lion has in his right paw the Hungarian Patriarchs Cross, while in his left paw is the oval Austrian Shield.

Weight:

- Large Gold Medal = 74 grams or 20 Ducats
- Large Silver Medal = 43.8 grams
- Small Gold Medal = 54 grams or 15 Ducats
- Small Silver Medal = 35 grams





Emperor Leopold II Austrian Honor Medal (Kaiser Leopold II österreichisch Gnadenmedaille)



Image attributed to Reference Catalogue Orders, medals and decorations of the World, A-D, Borna Barac

Size:

- Large Gold Medal = 49 mm
- Small Gold Medal = 49 mm but thinner than the Large Gold Medal
- Large Silver Medal = 49 mm
- Small Silver Medal = 43 mm

Type of Material: Gold and silver

Variations: None known

Designer: Johann Nepomuk Wirt

Manufacturer: Vienna Hauptmunzamt (Vienna Imperial Mint)

Number Issued: Unknown

Case: A simulated leather case with a decorative gilt border. The case has a black felt liner.

Ribbon: A 39-40 mm Crimson Ribbon

Attachments: None

Miniature: None known





Leopold II Imperial Coronation Medal (Kronungsmedaille Kaiser Leopold II)



Date Issued: 1790

Reason Issued: To commemorate the coronation of Leopold II as Holy Roman Emperor at Frankfurt am Main in 1790. The medal with this reverse was issued to Hungarians and Bohemians

Classes or Types: Two

- Gold Medal
- Silver Medal

Interesting Facts: None known

Hallmarks: None Known

Design: A round medal with slightly raised rim and a round flat attached eye at the top.

Obverse: A youthful bust of Leopold II, facing to the right. He is portrayed with long flowing wavy hair. He wears a laurel wreath as a crown. He has bare shoulders. Paralleling the rim around the upper half of the medal is the inscription: **LEOPOLDVS II. P.F. AVGVSTVS** (Leopold II Emperor). Below the bust and near the lower edge of the medal is the signature of the medalist: J. N. Wirt F. (The F stands for fabrikat , (fabricated))

Reverse: Around the upper edge of the medal is inscribed: **OPES. REGVM. CORDA.SVBDITORVM.** Below this inscription is the crown of the Roman Empire (Imperial crown). Below the crown and in the center of the medal is a stole with its three fringed ends reaching to the lower edge of the medal. Crossing over the stole so as to form an X is the imperial sword and scepter. The sword tip is to the viewers left and the top of the scepter to the right. Placed at the intersection of the sword and scepter is the imperial orb.

Weight:

- Gold Medal = 86.4 grams (24 Ducats)
- Silver Medal = 52.5 grams





Leopold II Imperial Coronation Medal
(Krönungsmedaille Kaiser Leopold II)



Size:

- Gold Medal = 50 mm
- Silver Medal = 50 mm

Type of Material: Gold and silver

Variations: None known

Designer: Johann Nepomuk Wirt

Manufacturer: Vienna Hauptmunzamt (Vienna Imperial Mint)

Number Issued: Unknown

Case: Unknown

Ribbon: A 39-40 mm Crimson Ribbon

Attachments: None

Miniature: None known





Golden Flag Medal for the Latour Dragoon Regiment
(Goldene Fahnenmedaille des Regiments Latour-Dragons)



Date Issued: 1791

Reason Issued: As a reward for the exceptional heroism and meritorious service of the Latour Dragoon Regiment Number 14 in all of the wars to date.

Classes or Types: One

Interesting Facts: This regiment was later renamed the Windeschgratz Dragoon Regiment Number 14. In 1868 when all cavalry standards were abolished this regiment was allowed by special order of the emperor to retain there's.

Hallmarks: None Known

Design: An oval medal with an attached ball shaped suspension eye at the top and two additional eyes at the top and bottom to secure the medal to the flag.

Obverse: A bust of Emperor Leopold II in court dress facing the viewers left. The emperor is wearing two stars and the Order of the Golden Fleece. Around the lower edge of the bust is what appears to be the folds of a cape. His hair is pulled back into a queue and is tied with a bow. His temples are adorned with a laurel wreath. Above the bust along the inner margin of the medal is the inscription: **LEOPOLDVS II AVGVSTVS**. Around the inner medallion of the medal is a beaded margin. Between this margin and the edge of the medal is a rope design.

Reverse: A plain field on which is inscribed: **A, LA FIDELITE ET A LA VALEVR SIGNALEE DV REGIMENT LATOVR DRAGONS RECONNVES PAR L EMPEREVR ET ROY** (In appreciation for fidelity and valor of the Latour Dragoon Regiment from the Emperor and King). Around the field on which this inscription is placed is a fine twisted rope design.

Weight: 200 Ducats or 700 grams

Size: 135 X 110 mm

Type of Material: Gold

Variations: None

Designer: Unknown

Manufacturer: Unknown





Golden Flag Medal for the Latour Dragoon Regiment
(Goldene Fahnenmedaille des Regiments Latour-Dragons)

Number Issued: One

Case: Unknown

Ribbon: A 40 mm wide red and white war ribbon with 20 mm red and white striped center section and 5 mm wide white edge stripes

Attachments: None

Miniature: None known

